

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP



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1) Caribbean Island St. Kitts Goes Green for Tourism

Going green may sound like the right thing to do but it can also be associated with being a costly burden and boring. But, as one island nation is proving, being green is a great selling point for attracting tourists and investors - especially in a world where many places are grappling with pollution and resource depletion.

St. Kitts, an island located between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, is part of the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis and has a population of around 35,000 (stkittstourism.kn).

The country shut down its main source of income, the sugar industry, in 2005. Facing dropping profits, it decided the industry was not worth supporting anymore.

But what would be the replacement source of income and employment? St. Kitts has turned to tourism for the answer. While many other Caribbean islands have long drawn on tourism - along with banking and finance, in some cases - in order to diversify economies away from dependence on agriculture, St. Kitts had not developed this sector. As a latecomer, St. Kitts needed to think about how it could do things differently and stand out from the crowd.

St. Kitts decided to become a regional champion for green tourism and green energy, and to lure tourists to the island by championing its green credentials.

The launch in 2013 of a Euro 1.8 million (US \$2.48 million) one-megawatt solar energy farm nearby the Robert L. Bradshaw International Airport (<http://www.stkittstourism.kn/explore-st-kitts-getting-here-airport.php>) - enough to power a few hundred houses - showed St. Kitts was getting serious about going green (<http://www.cuopm.com/?m=201302&paged=13>).

Joining the new solar farm, an all-green resort is hoping to further boost St. Kitts' green credentials. The ambitious Kittitian Hill (kittitianhill.com) resort stretches across 162 hectares and includes four hotels, an organic farm and multiple restaurants. In the pipeline is a plan to open film production and editing facilities to lure movie-makers looking for a green film-making studio.

Kittitian Hill is the brainchild of property developer Val Kempadoo (<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/valmiki-kempadoo/8/53a/339>), who is trying to set a precedent for sustainable resorts in the Caribbean. It is being developed with a mix of foreign experts and local contractors.

The resort boasts organic food fresh from tropical farms and an on-site tropical forest, described as an "edible landscape" offering a bounty of fresh fruit and vegetables. Around the resort, "Pick Me" signs encourage visitors to pick ripe fruit and sit down and make a meal of it.

The grounds include rare and heirloom fruit trees, and the resort hopes to create a reserve to protect endangered species. To spread the green message, the plants and seeds are shared locally with farmers and others. It is part of a strategy to encourage farmers to produce organic food, avoiding pesticides and chemicals, and to farm animals ethically.

The resort's green ethos even extends to its 18-hole golf course. Golf courses are notorious water-wasters, but this one has a smart water management system, using organic crops and fruit trees to help keep the soil moist, interweaving a farm throughout the golf course. Caddies will guide golfers to the ripest fruits while they put their way around the course.

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"My vision is to bring together community and culture, along with mindful conservation of natural resources," said Kempadoo. "This means we can offer our guests an unforgettable experience, while bringing lasting, life-changing benefits to the local people and economy."

As an added sweetener to get investment coming in, St. Kitts and Nevis offers citizenship to investors in the country. In return, investors can travel visa-free to 120 countries - something that has appealed to investors from around the global South.

"It is important for St. Kitts to be selective and careful about development and focus on high-end rather than high-volume tourism," Kempadoo told Monocle magazine. "The best asset of this island is its natural beauty, and we want to preserve it."

LINKS:

- 1) The International Ecotourism Society: The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting ecotourism. **Website:** <https://www.ecotourism.org/what-is-ecotourism>
- 2) Top Five Eco Resorts of Mexico: **Website:** <http://www.ecotourismtrips.org/topics/show/3809>
- 3) 3 Rivers Dominica Eco Lodge: "An award-winning range of comfortable and charming self-contained cottages, nature, adventure and community-based ecotourism activities, restaurant, rivers and relaxation". **Website:** <http://www.3riversdominica.com/>
- 4) Jungle Bay Resort and Spa: Award-winning Jungle Bay was built and is operated in alignment with international Geotourism and Ecotourism guidelines. As an alternative to traditional Caribbean tourism, the focus is on enjoyable nature-based activities and wellness of guests with quality service, guided by the principles as set by both National Geographic's Center for Sustainable Destinations and The International Ecotourism Society (TIES). **Website:** junglebaydominica.com

2) Big Data Can Transform the Global South's Growing Cities

The coming years will see a major new force dominating development: Big Data. The term refers to the vast quantities of digital data being generated as a result of the proliferation of mobile phones, the Internet and social media across the global South - a so-called 'data deluge' (UN Global Pulse). It is a historically unprecedented surge in data, much of it coming from some of the poorest places on the planet and being gathered in real time.

Big Data will have a profound impact on how the cities of the future develop, and will re-shape the way the challenges and problems of human development are handled.

Estimates by Cisco (cisco.com) foresee 10 billion mobile Internet-enabled devices around the world by 2016. With the world population topping 7.3 billion by then, that will work out to 1.4 devices per person.

Some estimates say 90 per cent of the digital data ever generated in the world has been produced in the past two years. It is also estimated that available digital data will increase by 40 per cent every year (UN Global Pulse). This digital transformation is being accompanied by another trend: the largest migration in human history from rural to semi-urban and urban areas.

This presents an unprecedented opportunity to make this rapid urbanization and social change smarter and more responsive to human needs, and to avoid the failures of the past, from over-crowding to crime, disease, pollution, unemployment and poverty. Some believe data collection can radically alter development by flagging up problems quickly, giving cities the chance to respond and correct negative trends before they get out of control. In short, to build in resilience by way of digital technology.

The latest region to see rapid industrialization and urbanization has been Asia - in particular China, a country that since the 1980s has simultaneously lifted the largest number of people in world history out of poverty and undertaken the biggest migration ever from rural to urban areas.

And now Africa is beginning to follow in Asia's wake.

Unlike previous waves of industrialization and urbanization, Africa's transformation is occurring in the age of the mobile phone, the Internet, personal computers and miniature electronic devices capable of more computing power than the computers used during the Apollo space programme (<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/foreducators/diypodcast/rocket-evolution-index-diy.html>). This changes the game significantly.

This 21st-century approach to urban growth is at its most sophisticated, and utopian, in so-called "smart cities." These are built-from-scratch cities that use the "Internet of Things", where everything, from lamp posts to garbage bins to roads are embedded with microchips and radio frequency transmitters (RFID chips) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radio-frequency_identification) to communicate data in real time. By analyzing this data, cities can be responsive to human needs and mitigate problems - improving waste collection and traffic management, reducing crime and pollution. Services can be customized to residents' needs and liberate them to

spend more time on things that matter such as their own health, family, work and hobbies. Examples of these cities include Tianjin Eco-city (tianjinecocity.gov.sg) in China, Masdar (masdar.ae) in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates and Songdo International Business District (songdo.com) in the Republic of Korea.

These experimental smart cities are springing up in the East, and it will be the East - as well as Africa - that will see most of the action going forward. As the global management consulting firm McKinsey noted in its report *Urban World: Mapping the Economic Power of Cities*: "Over the next 15 years, the center of gravity of the urban world will move south and, even more decisively, east."

Cities in the global South will be generating the new prosperity of the 21st century. And it is widely accepted that people living in cities have the potential to become very efficient economically while rapidly driving prosperity higher.

The McKinsey report says that "by 2025, developing-region cities of the City 600 (a list gathered by McKinsey) will be home to an estimated 235 million middle-class households earning more than (US) \$20,000 a year at purchasing power parity (PPP).

"Emerging-market mega-and middleweight cities together - 423 of them are included in the City 600 - are likely to contribute more than 45 percent of global growth from 2007 to 2025 (http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/urbanization/urban_world)."

The world's future prosperity is going to be found in the urban, the digitally connected, and the middle class.

Tracking all this digital change is the UN Global Pulse. UN Global Pulse (unglobalpulse.org) was started by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in 2009 with a mandate to study these changes and build expertise in applying Big Data to global development. UN Global Pulse functions as a network of innovation labs where research on Big Data for development is conceived and coordinated. It partners with experts from UN agencies, governments, academia, and the private sector to research, develop, and mainstream approaches for applying real-time digital data to 21st-century development challenges.

Unlike major technological trends of the past, this one is not restricted to the industrialized, developed world. Through the spread of mobile phone technology, billions of people are now using a device that constantly collects digital data, even in the poorest places on earth.

From an international development perspective, Big Data has five characteristics, according to UN Global Pulse: it is digitally generated, passively produced by people interacting with digital services, automatically collected, can be geographically or temporally traced and can be continuously analyzed in real time.

Sources of Big Data include chatter from social networks, web server logs, traffic flow sensors, satellite imagery, telemetry from vehicles and financial market data.

The key to using Big Data is combining datasets and then contrasting them in lots of different ways and doing it very quickly. The purpose? Better decision-making, based on an understanding of what is really happening on the ground.

This data exceeds the capability of existing database software. It is either too much, or comes in too quickly, or can't be handled using current software technology. Tackling this problem is creating a whole new wave of opportunities for those working in information technology.

As technology and processing power continue to improve, the cost of wrestling with this data and putting it to use is coming down.

The data can be analyzed for patterns and hidden information that before would have been too difficult to gather. This approach has been used by big companies such as WalMart (walmart.com), but it has cost them a large amount of money and time.

Pioneers in Big Data include search engine Google, email and search provider Yahoo, online shopping service Amazon and social media service Facebook. Many supermarkets use Big Data to analyze the way customers behave when they are shopping, combining it with their social and geographical data.

But new developments in hardware, cloud architecture, and open-source software mean Big Data processing is more accessible, including for small start-ups, who can just rent the capacity required on a cloud-based service (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing).

In the past, governments and planners had a ready excuse as to why they could not keep on top of ballooning urban populations and the chaos they brought. They could just throw up their hands and say "We do not know who these people are or what to do about them!"

This excuse does not work in the age of the mobile phone. It is now relatively easy to deploy the power of the networked computing inside mobile phones to map urban slums and identify the needs of the people there. Parse that data, and you have an accurate account of what is happening in the slum - all in real-time.

Making sense of all this information is creating its own new industries as innovators, entrepreneurs and companies step forward to chart this brave new world.

Historically, significant improvements in human development have occurred only after large-scale gathering of data and information on the actual living conditions of the population. For example, prototypes of today's infographics (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infographic>) - informative visual representations of complex data - were created during the great attempts at tackling poverty and disease in Europe in the 19th century. Today's masters of this technique include the Swedish doctor, academic and statistician Hans Rosling (gapminder.org), whose dynamic infographics are renowned for changing people's perceptions of global problems.

UN Global Pulse notes "much of the data used to track progress toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) dates back to 2008 or earlier and doesn't take into account the more recent economic crisis.

"While this may feed a perception that there is a scarcity of information about the wellbeing of populations, the opposite is in fact true. Thanks to the digital revolution, there is an ocean of data, being continuously generated in both developed and developing nations, which did not exist even a few years ago."

UN Global Pulse believes Big Data can be used to protect social development gains when crises strike. Rather than undoing decades of good development work and human development achievements, Big Data can help to create agile responses to crisis as it happens.

UN Global Pulse believes the same data, tools and analytics used by business can be turned to help the public sector understand "where people are losing the fight against hunger, poverty and disease, and to plan or evaluate a response."

LINKS:

- 1) Big Data: The Next Frontier for Innovation, Competition, and Productivity, Publisher: McKinsey Global Institute. **Website:** mckinsey.com
- 2) United Nations Global Pulse: Global Pulse is an innovation initiative launched by the Executive Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, in response to the need for more timely information to track and monitor the impacts of global and local socio-economic crises. The Global Pulse initiative is exploring how new, digital data sources and real-time analytics technologies can help policymakers understand human well-being and emerging vulnerabilities in real-time, in order to better protect populations from shocks. **Website:** <http://www.unglobalpulse.org/>
- 3) Business Models for the Data Economy by Q. Ethan McCallum and Ken Gleason. **Website:** http://www.oreilly.com/data/free/business-models-for-the-data-economy.csp?intcmp=il-strata-free-product-lgen_biz_models_for_data_economy_strata_right_rail
- 4) Building Data Science Teams by D. J. Patil, Publisher: Radar. **Website:** <http://www.oreilly.com/data/free/building-data-science-teams.csp>
- 5) Big Data for Development Primer, Publisher: UN Global Pulse. **Website:** <http://www.slideshare.net/unglobalpulse/big-data-for-development-a-primer>
- 6) Mobile Phone Network Data for Development, Publisher: UN Global Pulse. **Website:** <http://www.slideshare.net/unglobalpulse/mobile-data-for-development-primer-october-2013>
- 7) Big Data, Big Impact: New Possibilities for International Development, Publisher: World Economic Forum. **Website:** <http://www.weforum.org/reports/big-data-big-impact-new-possibilities-international-development>
- 8) How numbers rule the world by Lorenzo Fioramonti, Publisher: Zed Books. **Website:** <http://www.zedbooks.co.uk/node/16850>
- 9) Southern Innovator Issue 1: Mobile Phones and Information Technology: Considered a landmark work capturing this fast-changing field, Issue 1 comes packed with stories and contacts. **Website:** http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=Q1O54YSE2BgC&dq=southern+innovator+issue+1&source=gbs_navlinks_s
- 10) Urban world: Mapping the economic power of cities published by McKinsey Global Institute. **Website:** http://www.mckinsey.com/insights/urbanization/urban_world
- 11) Hadoop: Is open source software for handling of large data sets across clusters of computers using simple programming models. **Website:** <http://hadoop.apache.org/>
- 12) Pivotal: Pivotal develops software applications for big data. A testimonial on the Pivotal website sums it up: "With the ability to load a day's worth of data for a million meters in under fifty (50) seconds, we are able to keep up with the tremendous amount of data generated and start experimenting with many useful smart grid analytics." **Website:** gopivotal.com
- 13) TotallyDot: A way to centralize all the social media people use into a single page. **Website:** totallydot.com

3) Indian Business Model Makes Green Energy Affordable

The technology already exists to provide renewable energy and electricity to all the world's poor. The trick is finding a way to pay for it and to make it sustainable. Many innovators are experimenting with business models to reach the so-called Bottom of the Pyramid (BOP) cohort, and the 1.2 billion poorest people in the world who do not have access to electricity (World Bank) (<http://tinyurl.com/n9p3f5x>). A further 2.8 billion have to rely on wood or other biomass materials to cook and heat their homes.

The International Energy Agency (iea.org) believes US \$48 trillion of investment will be needed between now and 2035 to make sure energy capacity matches rapid population growth.

In the influential book *The Fortune at the Bottom of the Pyramid* (<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Fortune-Bottom-Pyramid-Eradicating-Poverty/dp/8177587765>), the late professor C.K. Prahalad (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._K._Prahalad) advocated seeing the poor as people with needs and assets: consumers who just need the right goods and services designed for them. It was a change from thinking only of the world's wealthier populations as consumers, and revealed a market worth billions waiting to be tapped.

Energy is key to development and improvements to living standards. Yet energy poverty plagues much of the global South, especially in Africa and particularly in rural areas.

The World Bank has identified 20 countries in developing Asia and sub-Saharan Africa which will require a massive effort to expand access to electricity and safe cooking methods for poor households.

Around 80 per cent of the people without modern energy live in rural areas. While progress has been made since 1990 in expanding access to energy, it has failed to keep pace with population growth. According to the World Bank, the pace of expansion will have to double to meet the 100 percent access target set for 2030.

To avoid increasing global carbon emissions while achieving this goal, many are looking to renewable energy sources and technologies to reach these last groups of people.

As pointed out by the Institute of Development Studies (<http://www.ids.ac.uk/news/can-renewable-electricity-reduce-poverty>), "The global threat posed by climate change means that we also face the pressing need to use less carbon in existing energy systems. Making progress on both energy poverty and decarbonization requires a sharp increase in renewable electricity production, both on and off-grid."

The institute identified four necessary factors for access to renewable energy to benefit poor people.

1. Once electricity is generated, it needs to be reliably fed into the system.
2. This additional supply must be made accessible, and affordable, for poor people.
3. Increased electricity consumption then needs to translate into poverty reduction.
4. Increased electricity supply can indirectly reduce poverty by boosting economic growth.

India's Simpa Networks (simpanetworks.com), started in 2011, and has a business model it believes will do the trick. Simpa has developed a clever way to increase access to home solar power systems for the poor, by allowing customers to purchase the system in gradual "rental" payments over time. The customers eventually come to own the power system outright, and from then on to generate electricity for free. Since the payments are small and incremental, it suddenly becomes within the realm of poor households to afford modern solar energy systems.

This is called the "Progressive Purchase Pricing Model" - similar to "prepaid", "pay as you go" and "installment plan" models. Under this model, customers make a 10 percent down payment and receive the home solar system. The customer then buys a time-specific amount of energy for between US \$1 and US \$10 with their mobile phone. The orange lock box on the power system has a keypad on the front. When a code is punched in, it releases electricity (<http://simpanetworks.com/our-solution/>).

In increments, while the customer purchases energy for home use they also eat away at the cost of the system, until eventually it is paid off, usually at a total of US \$300. Systems have an expected life span of 10 years.

With few cash resources, poor households usually are not capable of saving enough cash to purchase a full energy system for their home. Instead, they rely on buying kerosene for lamps or using battery-powered torches and lamps when they can afford it.

In 2012, Simpa teamed up with SELCO India (<http://www.selco-india.com/>) - a social enterprise providing sustainable energy solutions and services to households - to sell 1,000 home solar power systems, expanding to 5,000 systems in 2013, according to a case study from not-for-profit Synergie pour l'Echange et la Valorisation des Entrepreneurs d'Avenir (SEVEA) (sevea-asso.org). The goal is to reach 25,000 units sold by the end of 2014, proving this business model can scale. Ultimately, Simpa wishes to mega-scale its approach and reach 1 million households over the next five years.

Simpa believes take-up will be quick because this model reduces risk, both for the seller and for the bank that may loan the cash for the 10 per cent down payment. Simpa acts as a go-between for the system sellers such as SELCO and the banks. Simpa believe this business model reduces the risk of non-payment or loan default and has the right incentives in place to encourage the customer to hang in and keep making payments until they own the system outright. Customers enjoy the benefits of clean energy 24/7 from day one and can see clearly the connection between the energy they receive and the small payments they make. For those who default from paying, the system is taken from their home.

When the system was piloted in Karnataka, India, all loans were successfully repaid.

Simpa Networks is a venture capital-backed technology company. It hopes its approach will attract investors, particularly social investors, seeking a low-risk investment in helping expand energy access.

LINKS:

- 1) Social innovation: Creating products for those at the bottom of the pyramid from INSEAD Business School. **Website:** <http://knowledge.insead.edu/csr/social-entrepreneurship/creating-products-for-those-at-the-bottom-of-the-pyramid-1957>
- 2) Reality Check at the Bottom of the Pyramid from Harvard Business Review. **Website:** <http://hbr.org/2012/06/reality-check-at-the-bottom-of-the-pyramid/ar/1>
- 3) Getting BoP Products in Consumers' Hands - MFIs and Micro-dealers Can Help from Next Billion. **Website:** <http://www.nextbillion.net/blogpost.aspx?blogid=1796>
- 4) Next Billion: Development through enterprise: NextBillion.net is a website and blog bringing together the community of business leaders, social entrepreneurs, NGOs, policy makers and academics who want to explore the connection between development and enterprise. **Website:** nextbillion.net

4) **South-South Trade Helping Countries During Economic Crisis**

Weathering the global economic crisis is testing the stability of countries across the global South. But many countries are finding South-South trade and catering to their domestic middle classes can lift incomes and maintain growth rates despite the global turmoil.

A decade of boom in global markets as they became more integrated has brought rising incomes and created growing economies in the so-called emerging markets of the global South. Finance and investment from developed countries flowed into the global South and helped bolster growing economies, boosting incomes and bringing millions of people into the middle classes. But since the start of the global economic crisis in 2008, more and more countries in the global South have experienced turmoil, chaos and crisis.

The export-driven model that had served many Asian countries well - creating products for developed Western markets - is being tested by high unemployment in developed economies and declining purchasing power for the Western middle classes. Two trends that have grown in the past 10 years may offer a solution to this economic crisis. One is to build on the growth in South-South trade, and the other is to tap the growing middle classes of the global South by expanding the products and services available to them and further improving their quality of life.

It is well established that one of the key elements to securing sustainable prosperity is a thriving middle class. Middle classes in many countries in the global South are still classified as vulnerable - at risk of returning to poverty if the economy experiences a short-term crisis. Their resilience to an economic downturn needs to be strengthened, and this can be done by improving the quality of products and services available to them.

Building this market can also strengthen domestic job growth and help reduce a country's dependence on imports.

One country facing up to this challenge is Indonesia. The New York Times recently reported that ports in Indonesia and other resource-exporting countries are quiet, as China's demand for resources slows.

But while export markets are experiencing a slowdown, investment is going into Indonesia's agricultural food-processing industry. Agricultural multinational Cargill (cargill.com) is building a cocoa-bean processing plant in the country, and the PT. Suprama (suprama.co.id/en/) instant-noodle factory is running at full capacity to meet the needs of the country's growing middle class.

Many countries have experienced significant inflows of investment money as a result of stimulus measures led by the United States Federal Reserve (http://www.federalreserve.gov/faqs/about_12594.htm) to counter the economic contraction caused by the global economic crisis. This money, however, is uncertain and can just as easily disappear as it leaves to chase the next opportunity. Wise countries take measures to avoid being dependent on this fickle and fast investment funding.

Unlike in the Asian Crisis of 1997-1998 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1997_Asian_financial_crisis), many emerging-market countries now have large foreign currency reserves and robust stock markets. They have also built up their middle classes and increased consumption. Trade links with other countries in the global South have grown enormously since the late 1990s. For example, the trade between China and Africa, as announced by Chinese President Xi Jinping (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xi_Jinping) in early 2014, has surpassed US \$200 billion for the first time, turning China into Africa's largest trading partner.

Despite a raging global crisis, in many emerging economies domestic spending is holding up and, in some cases, has never been stronger.

China now plays a key role in maintaining global economic demand. According to the global bank HSBC, Chinese growth adds "twice as many dollars to annual global demand as growth in the United States economy and far more than the economies of the European Union."

An article in The New York Times (http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/13/business/emerging-markets-in-asia-in-a-delicate-limbo.html?_r=0) suggested that global South countries can benefit from these trends by becoming an

alternative to China's "own increasingly high-cost producers of coal, aluminum, and other minerals" - as well as of clothing, shoes and electronics.

China is also in the process of altering its economy, from being the low-wage workshop of the world to an increasingly high-tech, high-value economy with growing science, technology and innovation sectors buoyed by heavy investment in research and development, for example China's Xi'an Hi-tech Industries Development Zone (xdz.com). As China changes, other countries can step in and replace the industries that no longer find China an affordable place to manufacture their goods.

As an example, the Indonesian vice minister of trade, Bayu Krisnamurthi, announced that the Foxconn Technology Group of Taiwan (foxconn.com), which makes components and assembles devices for the popular Apple (apple.com) computer brand, is looking to set up a large factory in Indonesia.

"The other brands will come in their footsteps," Krisnamurthi told The New York Times.

Other countries are bucking the crisis trend and using greater freedom to boost economic growth.

Cuba has been able to bounce back with free-market reforms. The Caribbean island has had its ups and downs economically since its revolution in the late 1950s. After the revolution, the country had several decades of impressive human development gains and built up enviable education and health care systems. But with the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, the country lost its trade relationships and subsidies and was pitched into a major economic crisis.

During the Cold War, the USSR hovered up almost all of Cuba's exports of sugar, nickel and citrus fruit, and sold Cuba two-thirds of its food and 98 per cent of its fuel.

What was termed the "special period" after the collapse of the Soviet Union saw petrol become scarce. Many had to turn to cycling and walking to get around. Factories closed and food production declined.

One estimate by Hal Klepak of the Royal Military College of Canada, reported in The Observer newspaper, found the economy collapsed by 50 per cent in the five years to 1993.

Since then, Cuba has endured significant austerity and has struggled to regain its trade relationships and restore economic growth. Tourism has played a key role in keeping the country going.

And since 2008, various economic reforms have started to shift the economy away from over-dependence on the state and towards a more mixed market model.

Its capital, Havana, is a UNESCO world heritage site and is a popular tourist destination with one of the best-preserved former Spanish colonial architecture in the Caribbean.

When President Raul Castro took over from his brother Fidel, he began to slowly experiment with reforms to test how much market freedom could boost the economy and increase incomes. This has included allowing paladares, or privately-run restaurants, which are now flourishing and benefiting from the steady flow of tourists to the island.

The state now allows people to set up as independent traders in 200 occupations. Some have established entertainment businesses such as paint balling, others are running bars, or bookshops. It is now possible to easily change money in Havana and to find accommodation in private homes. Cash machines are spreading throughout the capital and more and more businesses will accept credit cards.

Registered businesspeople rose from 157,000 in October 2011 to more than 442,000 in 2013.

By being flexible, it is possible to discover new ways to grow economies and increase incomes, even in hard times. And increasing South-South trade is the way to go.

LINKS:

- 1) The China Africa Project: The China Africa Project is a multimedia resource dedicated to exploring every aspect of China's growing engagement with Africa. **Website:** chinaafricaproject.com
- 2) China's trade and investment in Africa: Resources to contribute to more informed investment and trade policies and decision making in sectors and locations where China is emerging as a major player. **Website:** <http://www.cifor.org/china-africa/home.html>
- 3) Made-in-China.com: With the continuous and explosive growth of Chinese exports, trade and the number of internet users, Focus Technology launched its online trade platform, Made-in-China.com. Made-in-China.com provides the most complete, accurate and up-to-date information on Chinese products and Chinese suppliers available anywhere on the web. Nowadays, Made-in-China.com is a world-leading B2B portal, specializing in bridging the gap between global buyers and quality Chinese suppliers. **Website:** made-in-china.com

- 4) Southern Innovator Issue 2: Youth and Entrepreneurship: Called "Graphically beautiful & informative", Issue 2 features entrepreneurial solutions for escaping poverty relevant to youth. **Website:** http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=Ty0N969dcscC&dq=southern+innovator+issue+2&source=gbs_navlinks_s

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Check out our website archive: southerninnovator.org

Southern Innovator magazine's fifth issue (ISSN 2222-9280) (ISBN 978-0-9920217-1-9) is now online and 5,000 copies are available for distribution. The fifth issue's theme is waste and recycling. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/207579744/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-5-Waste-and-Recycling>.

Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works. Southern Innovator needs financial support in order to keep up the good work of sharing knowledge and innovation around the global South. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to reach the pioneers and innovators shaping our new world.

Southern Innovator magazine's fourth issue (ISBN 978-0-9920217-0-2) is also online and 5,000 print copies are available for distribution. The fourth issue's theme is cities and urbanization. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>.

Issue 6 (ISBN 978-0-9920217-2-6) will be on the theme of science, technology and innovation. Get on board now and support the magazine and help us to reach more people. Please contact the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

The covers for Issues 4 and 5 are below:



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Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..." and "Beautiful, inspiring magazine from UNDP on South-South innovation. Heart is pumping adrenaline and admiration just reading it"

Issue 4 has been called "fantastic, great content and a beautiful design!"

On Southern Innovator: "Btw, I really enjoyed reading them, impressive work & a great resource. Looking forward to Issue 6. My best wishes to you & your team at SI."

Also check out our SouthSouth Expo: 2013's Expo was in Nairobi, Kenya from 28 October to 1 November 2013. The first Arab States Regional South-South Development Expo took place from 18-20 February 2014 in Doha, Qatar: southsouthexpo.org

BOOKS

Human Development Report 2013: The Rise of the South. The 2013 Human Development Report examines the profound shift in global dynamics driven by the fast-rising new powers of the developing world and its long-term implications for human development. **Website:**

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/mediacentre/humandevelopmentreportpresskits/2013report/>

Human Development Reports, (1990-2013). **Website:** <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2011/>

The Frugal Innovator: Creating Change on a Shoestring Budget by Charles Leadbeater, Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan. **Website:** amazon.com

African Economic Outlook - Measuring the pulse of Africa, Publisher: African Development Bank (AfDB), the OECD Development Centre and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Africa's macroeconomic prospects remain favorable. In 2013, Africa maintained an average growth rate of about 4 per cent. This compares to 3 per cent for the global economy and underscores again the continent's resilience to global and regional headwinds. However, growth performance varied widely across country classifications and regions. **Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press.

Website: http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html

NEW: *The Dollar Trap: How the U.S. Dollar Tightened its Grip on Global Finance* by Eswar S. Prasad, Publisher: Princeton University Press. **Website:** <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/10182.html>

The Death of Money: The Coming Collapse of the International Monetary System by James Rickards, Publisher: Portfolio Hardcover. **Website:** amazon.com

The Zero Marginal Cost Society: The Internet of Things, the Collaborative Commons, and the Eclipse of Capitalism by Jeremy Rifkin, Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan. **Website:** amazon.com

Edible Insects: Future prospects for food and feed security, Publisher: FAO. **Website:**

<http://www.fao.org/docrep/018/i3253e/i3253e00.htm>

Innovative Africa: The New Face of Africa: Essays on the Rise of Africa's Innovation Age by Will Mutua and Mbwana Ally, Publisher: Afrinnovator. **Website:** <http://book.afrinnovator.com/>

The Solution Revolution by William D. Eggers and Paul Macmillan, Publisher: Harvard Business Press. Where tough societal problems persist, citizens, social enterprises, and yes, even businesses, are relying less and less on government-only solutions. More likely, they are crowd funding, ride-sharing, app- developing or impact-investing to design lightweight solutions for seemingly intractable problems. No challenge is too daunting, from malaria in Africa to traffic congestion in California. **Website:** solutionrevolutionbook.com

Aid on the Edge of Chaos by Ben Ramalingam, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:**

<http://aidontheedge.info/>

Big Data: A Revolution That Will Transform How We Live, Work and Think by

[Viktor Mayer-Schonberger](http://amazon.com) and Kenneth Cukier, Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** amazon.com

The New Digital Age: Reshaping the Future of People, Nations and Business by [Eric Schmidt](http://amazon.com) and [Jared Cohen](http://amazon.com), Publisher: John Murray. **Website:** amazon.com

Interconnected Economies: Benefiting from Global Value Chains, Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

<http://www.oecd.org/sti/ind/global-value-chains.htm>

Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness.

Website: amazon.com

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. *Living in the Endless City* depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawa, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** amazon.com

The End of Cheap China: Economic and Cultural Trends that will Disrupt the World by Shaun Rein, Publisher: John Wiley and Sons. **Website:** amazon.com

The Idealist: Jeffrey Sachs and the Quest to End Poverty by Nina Munk, Publisher: Doubleday. In 2006, Sachs launched the Millennium Villages Project, a daring five-year experiment designed to test his theories in Africa. For

the past six years, Nina Munk has reported deeply on the Millennium Villages Project, accompanying Sachs on his official trips to Africa and listening in on conversations with heads-of-state, humanitarian organizations, rival economists, and development experts. **Website:** amazon.com

Breakout Nations by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. Breakout Nations offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

Light Manufacturing in Africa by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development, Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp

Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** <http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/>

Makers: The New Industrial Revolution By Chris Anderson, Publisher: Crown Business. **Website:** amazon.com

World Economic Outlook, October 2012: Coping with High Debt and Sluggish Growth, Publisher: IMF. **Website:** eurospangroup.com

Information Economy Report 2012: The Software Industry and Developing Countries, Publisher: United Nations Publications. **Website:** eurospangroup.com

China and India: Towards Global Economic Supremacy? by Rita Dulci and Jose Miguel Andreu, Publisher: Academic Foundation. **Website:** eurospanbookstore.com

Devaluing to Prosperity: Misaligned Currencies and Their Growth Consequences by Surjit S. Bhalla, Publisher: Peterson Institute for International Economics. **Website:** eurospanbookstore.com

China's Silent Army by Juan Pablo Cardenal and Heriberto Araujo, Publisher: Allen Lane. **Website:** amazon.com

The Production and Distribution of Knowledge in the United States by Fritz Machlup, Publisher: Princeton University Press. *The Production and Distribution of Knowledge in the United States* marked the beginning of the study of our postindustrial information society. Austrian-born economist Fritz Machlup had focused his research on the patent system, but he came to realize that patents were simply one part of a much bigger "knowledge economy." He then expanded the scope of his work to evaluate everything from stationery and typewriters to advertising to presidential addresses - anything that involved the activity of telling anyone anything. *The Production and Distribution of Knowledge in the United States* then revealed the new and startling shape of the U.S. economy. **Website:** amazon.com

Chinnovation: How Chinese Innovators are Changing the World by Yinglan Tan, Publisher: John Wiley & Sons. **Website:** amazon.com

China's Uncertain Future by Jean-Luc Domenach, Publisher: Columbia University Press. **Website:** amazon.com

Hello World: Where Design Meets Life by Alice Rawsthorn, Publisher: Hamish Hamilton. **Website:** amazon.com

Urgent Architecture: 40 Sustainable Housing Solutions for a Changing World by Bridgette Meinhold, Publisher: W.W. Norton & Co. **Website:** amazon.com

When the Money Runs Out: The End of Western Affluence by Stephen D. King, Publisher: Yale Books. **Website:** amazon.com

Architecture Now! Vol. 9 by Philip Jodidio, Publisher: Taschen. *Architecture Now! 9* includes works in Amsterdam and Inner Mongolia by architects as famous as Zaha Hadid and Jean Nouvel, and those as little known to the general public as Carla Juaçaba from Brazil. **Website:** tashcen.com

Papers and Reports

National Intellectual Property Systems, Innovation and Economic Development: With perspectives on Colombia and Indonesia Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?sf1=identifiers&st1=9789264204478>

OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2013: Innovations for Growth Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?K=5K49GNZP9H5L&LANG=EN>

Start-up Latin America: Promoting Innovation in the Region Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?K=5K468NKR9BZR&LANG=EN>

Innovation in Southeast Asia Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?K=5K9H35T9ZGTD&LANG=EN>

Knowledge-based Start-ups in Mexico Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

<http://www.oecdbookshop.org/oecd/display.asp?K=5K4C7QF5L05G&LANG=EN>

Latest publications from UNRISD in Geneva on the Social and Solidarity Economy:

Think pieces by Meyer and Leal on [Community Development Banks](#) in Brazil, by Richards and Ruddick on [Complementary Currencies](#) in Kenya. and by Larraitz Altuna-Gabilondo on the [Mondragon](#) cooperative in Spain. The SSE conference event brief is now available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#) at

[http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/%28httpPublicationsHome%29/\\$First?OpenDocument](http://www.unrisd.org/80256B3C005BCCF9/%28httpPublicationsHome%29/$First?OpenDocument)

The new Social and Solidarity Economy [LinkedIn group](#) is stimulating dialogue and networking between practitioners, researchers and policy makers around the world. We invite you to join the group today. As a member you can exchange ideas about SSE, inform others of your work and get connected to colleagues from all over the world. You are welcome to post comments in your preferred language, and becoming a member is free of charge. Please share the webpage with your networks: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/Social-Solidarity-Economy-5117299/about?trk=anet ug grppro>

Clean Air Asia Study 2012. **Website:** <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/11338>

African Economic Outlook 2012: Promoting Youth Employment Publisher: Various. With almost 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the youngest population in the world. This number will double by 2045. Many jobs have been created over the last decade, but the pace needs to accelerate significantly to match the demand of Africa's next generations. **Website:** <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:**

www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010 Publisher: Commission for Africa. **Website:**

www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries Publisher: OECD. **Website:**

www.oecdilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmmmp8lncrns-en (PDF - 2.09 mb)

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the U.S., come closer to Europe.

Website: <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

Africa begins to make poverty history: U.S. economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history

The Demise of the Rest: on How the BRICS Are Crumbling and Why Global Economic Convergence Is a Myth by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138219/ruchir-sharma/broken-brics>

Meteoric Mongolia: Why It's Ascending So Fast – And How It Might Fall by Morris Rossabi, Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138794/morris-rossabi/meteoric-mongolia>

Innovations in Green Economy: Top Three Agenda by David South, Publisher: Southasiadisasters.net. **Website:**

<http://www.preventionweb.net/english/professional/publications/v.php?id=35990>

Magazines

Southern Innovator Issue 1: Mobile Phones and Information Technology Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/95410448/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-1-Mobile-Phones-and-Information-Technology>

Southern Innovator Issue 2: Youth and Entrepreneurship Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

Website: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055335/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-2-Youth-and-Entrepreneurship>

Southern Innovator Issue 3: Agribusiness and Food Security Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>

Southern Innovator Issue 4: Cities and Urbanization Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation.

Website: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/133622315/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-4-Cities-and-Urbanization>

Southern Innovator Issue 5: Waste and Recycling Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation. **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/207579744/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-5-Waste-and-Recycling>

New Publication

Southern Innovator Issue 5: Waste and Recycling: Improving Human Development with Finite Resources

Publisher: UN Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP. Southern Innovator's fifth issue explores how innovation can tackle the challenges of improving human development on a planet with finite resources. SI researchers identified innovative, low-polluting options to the world's energy needs. They found that it is possible to alter the way things are made to reduce or eliminate waste and toxic pollutants harming human health and damaging the environment. Order copies for distribution from the UN Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP. ISSN 2222-9280 ISBN 978-0-9920217-1-9 **Website:** <http://www.scribd.com/doc/207579744/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-5-Waste-and-Recycling>

On the Web

Blogs and Websites

Africa Interactive weblog: Africa Interactive is a fast growing multimedia press and content agency in Africa, with 2,000 local reporters in 50 African countries. Its reporters tell the African story in text, photo or video. Its database contains filmmakers, journalists, photographers, stringers and marketing experts. **Website:** <http://africainteractive.wordpress.com/page/2/>

Conserve India: Conserve India, a leading not-for-profit organization born out of a desire to reduce and reuse India's growing mountain of waste, and simultaneously help the most vulnerable community of rag-pickers.

Website: <http://conserveindia.wordpress.com/>

Raspberry Pi: The Raspberry Pi is a credit-card sized computer that plugs into your TV and a keyboard. It's a capable little PC which can be used for many of the things that your desktop PC does, like spreadsheets, word-processing and games. It also plays high-definition video. Raspberry Pi want to see it being used by kids all over the world to learn programming. **Website:** raspberrypi.org

African Robotics Network: The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad. **Website:** <http://robotics-africa.org/>

Polis: A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools. **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Focus on Land in Africa: Focus on Land in Africa (FOLA) is an educational resource for development practitioners and policy makers that explores how land and natural resource rights affect, and are effected by, development in Africa. Through raising awareness of these issues, FOLA aims to elevate land and natural resource rights as an urgent priority for development in Africa. **Website:**

http://www.focusonland.com/?utm_source=Com+Plotlines+-+OCT+2013&utm_campaign=4+Plotlines+SEPT+2013+Plots&utm_medium=email

India Water Tool: The India Water Tool (IWT) is a country customization of the [Global Water Tool](#), and has been developed by a 14 company working group based in India. The companies pooled their expertise to obtain *the best available data on ground water availability and quality in India* and customize the tool to their country context. The tool will help companies respond to the growing challenges of managing water effectively in this large, water scarce country. **Website:** <http://www.wbcds.org/indiawatertool.aspx>

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs): International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website: The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery. **Website:** <http://www.oecd.org/general/tacklingthecrisisastrategicresponse.htm>

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** globalurbanist.com

Green Prophet: Green Prophet is a sustainable voice for green news on the Middle East region. A region with sweeping changes and immense opportunities for sustainable investment and growth, we cover a vast and unexplored territory from Morocco to Iran. The Middle East and North Africa region includes more than half a billion people. Controlling about 60 per cent of the world's oil, and 45 per cent of its natural gas reserves, and with little environmental awareness in general and dwindling water resources, the region's activities are of immense consequence for climate change, human migration, and the future of our planet. **Website:** <http://www.greenprophet.com/>

Inhabitat: Inhabitat.com is a weblog devoted to the future of design, tracking the innovations in technology, practices and materials that are pushing architecture and home design towards a smarter and more sustainable future. **Website:** <http://inhabitat.com/>

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program website: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services. **Website:** <http://www.makingcents.com/ourWork/yfsLink.php>

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment **Website:** <http://triplecrisis.com/>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community. **Website:** www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent. **Website:** africaportal.org

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels. **Website:** africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The Africa Renewal information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today. **Website:** www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec/

Timbuktu Chronicles: A blog by Emeka Okafor

With "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities." **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** afrigadget.com

Interesting Blogger

EBP Lab

The EBP LAB is a platform that promotes emerging leaders, thinkers and doers who are pioneering alternative routes to value creation in the 21st century. **Website:** <http://www.ebplab.com/emerging2emerging/>

Notable Websites

UNRISD

The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the UN system that undertakes multidisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of

contemporary development issues. UNRISD's new website is packed with resources and publications and always has a new event worth checking out. **Website:** <http://www.unrisd.org/>

Social Media

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform

This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas. **Website:** www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579

Start-up Funding

Venture Capital for Africa

Venture Capital for Africa (www.vc4africa.biz) is the continent's leading founder's network, the largest and fastest growing community of entrepreneurs and investors building promising companies in Africa. The community currently supports more than 1000 + ventures in more than 30 African countries. Already entrepreneurs have been featured in mainstream media, established joint ventures and secured funding. **Website:** <http://vc4africa.biz/>

Ashoka - Innovators for the Public

To support social entrepreneurs who are leading and collaborating with changemakers, in a team of teams model that addresses the fluidity of a rapidly evolving society. Ashoka believes that anyone can learn and apply the critical skills of empathy, team work, leadership and changemaking to be successful in the modern world.

Website: <https://www.ashoka.org/>

Betterplace

Betterplace.org is a transparent online donation platform. 5,818 projects already use the free technology and advice – and 392,264 donors have enthusiastically contributed. **Website:** <http://www.betterplace.org/en>

Hubs!

They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa. Website: <https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#> And there are 18 in Latin America too. **Website:** <http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/>

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries.

Website: <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda. Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways.

Website: <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition'.

Website: www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Challenge

InnoCentive (www.innocentive.com/) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:**

www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

Rwanda Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF)

Rwanda Research Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF) was established and is managed by the Government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) in partnership with UNECA (SRO-EA & ISTD) under One UN Rwanda. The objective of this Fund is to stimulate economic transformation through R&D in innovative market-oriented products and processes in priority areas of the economy, thereby increasing prosperity and the competitiveness of the Rwandan economy. The orientation can be either for economic growth, social development or combination of the two. **Website:** <http://www.mineduc.gov.rw/spip.php?article21>

The Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA)

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Innovation Foundation (AIF) are delighted to announce the call for applications for the 2013 Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA). Too often, innovators and entrepreneurs are not highly profiled on the African development agenda. It is IPA's mission to elevate attention around innovative work and help support the vision of entrepreneurs. The prize honours and encourages innovative achievements that contribute towards the development of new products, increased efficiency or cost savings in Africa. The prize also promotes the efforts of young African men and women pursuing science, technology and engineering careers as well as business opportunities that aim to contribute to sustainable development in Africa. **Website:** <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>

Video

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

EVENTS

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

Africa Events

An excellent resource by Aryan Media Group for all events in Africa in 2014. Look up events by the month or by country. **Website:** <http://www.events-africa.com/>

2014

July

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

Aviation Outlook Africa 2014

Johannesburg, South Africa (1-2 July 2014)

Aviation Outlook Africa is a conference about meeting the demand for aviation solutions. The event targets decision-makers from local and international airlines, airports, investors and government.

Website: <http://www.events-africa.com/aviation-outlook-africa-2014-events-africa.html>

2nd International Conference on Global Public Health 2014

Negombo, Sri Lanka (3-4 July 2014)

Offers a valuable opportunity to network with colleagues from many countries who share the same goals. Scientists and experts in Global public health are invited to participate in Asia's largest public health event in Sri Lanka. Session themes for the conference cover a rich and diverse range of research topics. We hope these sessions will bring researchers from across the globe together to discuss broad questions of common interest and provide a platform to establish relationships with new colleagues. You will be enlightened with innovative ideas and solutions at GPH 2014.

Website: <http://www.health3000.org/>

August

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

September

Annual Meeting of the New Champions

Tianjin, People's Republic of China (10-12 September 2014)

Established in 2007 as the foremost global gathering on science, technology and innovation, the Annual Meeting of the New Champions convenes the next generation of fast-growing enterprises shaping the future of business and society together with leaders from major multinationals as well as government, media, academia and civil society. Join us next September in Tianjin as part of – a community of more than 1,500 participants from 90 countries – for a true global experience addressing today's unprecedented set of intertwined global challenges – economic, political, societal and environmental.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/annual-meeting-new-champions>

World Economic Forum on Europe, MENA and Eurasia

Istanbul, Turkey (28-30 September 2014)

Shaping New Pathways to Development and Growth

Istanbul sits at the intersection of globally important regions and cultures, and within one of the world's most dynamic economies, Turkey. Building on a cross-regional platform introduced in Istanbul in 2012, the 2014 meeting will bring together over 1,000 of the foremost leaders from across Europe, the Middle East, North Africa

and Central Asia. These regions share common challenges while remaining emphatically diverse. At the same time, they are increasingly interconnected, which creates a host of new opportunities and imperatives. Across these regions, business, government and civil society leaders are looking for ways to strengthen institutions, boost employment and create inclusive growth by fostering innovation and entrepreneurship. These shared efforts are critical for Europe's drive to close its competitiveness divide, North Africa's complex transitions and reforms in Central Asia.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-europe-mena-and-eurasia>

October

Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference

Washington, D.C., USA (6-8 October 2014)

Making Cents International is thrilled to announce the 2014 Global Youth Economic Opportunities Conference will take place October 6-8 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel (2800 South Potomac Ave. Arlington, Virginia 22202), which is just minutes outside Washington, DC. We look forward to your engagement in a dynamic exchange of lessons learned, promising practices, and innovative ideas through a "Spotlight on Technology" and 5 learning tracks: Workforce Development, Youth Enterprise Development, Monitoring, Evaluation & Impact Assessment, Gender, Youth-Inclusive Financial Services and Capabilities.

Website: youtheconomicopportunities.org/conference and makingcents.com

Twitter: @YouthEconOpps and @MakingCentsIntl

TEDGlobal 2014: South!

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (5-10 October 2014)

TEDGlobal is heading to Latin America. In October 2014, on the beach of Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro, we will be celebrating the outpouring of innovation, dynamism and creativity taking place all over South America and the global south. The world is changing fast. Fresh thinking can be found in every direction, in emerging geographies as well as in the western hemisphere. Prepare to have your world turned upside down: Join us in Rio to explore the realities of tomorrow.

Website: <http://conferences.ted.com/TEDGlobal2014/>

Hidden Money, Hidden Resources: Financing Development with Transparency

Lima, Peru (14-15 October 2014)

You are invited to the 2014 annual conference of the Financial Transparency Coalition (FTC), co-hosted by the Latin American Network on Debt, Development, and Rights (LATINDAD). The event will bring together leaders in the development and finance communities to draw attention to the growing problem of illicit financial flows and the impact on development. By conveying a variety of stakeholders, from government officials to civil society advocates and policy experts from around the world, the conference serves as a global platform to exchange ideas, engage in creative thinking on the issue of illicit flows, and work together to find solutions. You can submit any questions to the conference team via email to: conference@financialtransparency.org. We regret to inform you that the FTC is unable to provide funding for travel, accommodation, or per diems for the conference at this time. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Website: http://conference.financialtransparency.org/conf/?page_id=13

November

World Economic Forum on India

(New Delhi, India (4-6 November 2014))

India is Asia's third largest economy, the world's largest democracy and most populous country, with over 1.2 billion inhabitants. In this indispensable emerging market, the country's entrepreneurs and rapidly globalizing firms are key contributors to the world economy. However, as a fundamentally bottom-up, state-led and centrally enabled model, the country's development is a multidimensional undertaking. As a result, the challenges and opportunities that India encounters are among the most important yet also least understood in the world. Marking the thirtieth year of the World Economic Forum's active engagement in India, taking place at a time when the energetic optimism for India which has been prevalent in the past decade has given way to questions about the country's true potential, the Forum will provide the foremost multistakeholder platform bringing together international and national leaders in New Delhi who are invested in building a sustainable roadmap for India's future. This meeting will offer an opportunity to meet with the new government to discuss key issues that challenge inclusive growth in India and to focus to craft solutions. This will be an invaluable meeting for all who have a real interest in the future of India.

Website: <http://www.weforum.org/events/world-economic-forum-india-0>

AITEC East Africa ICT Summit 2014

Nairobi, Kenya (19-20 November 2014)

The time has come for East Africa's long heralded ICT revolution to start delivering results that improve the quality of life for the region's citizens. The technology is available, the international communication links are in place, the need is clear.

Website: <http://www.events-africa.com/aitec-east-africa-ict-summit-2014-events-africa.html>

December

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to developmentchallenges@googlemail.com.

January 2015 – Millennium Development Goals Deadline Year

April

7th World Water Forum

Daegu-Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea (12-17 April 2015)

The 7th World Water Forum will take place in Daegu-Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea, from 12 to 17 April 2015. The 7th Edition of the world's largest water event is expected to gather over 30,000 people from multi-stakeholder backgrounds for 6 days of high-quality sessions, intense debates and informative workshops.

Website: worldwatercouncil.org

AWARDS AND FUNDING

CTA Top 20 Innovations for Smallholder Farmers: Call for Proposals

CTA is a joint international institution of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States and the European Union (EU). Its mission is to advance food and nutrition security, increase prosperity and encourage sound natural resource management in ACP countries. Smallholder production systems in ACP countries are performing far below the levels required to sustain livelihoods, reduce poverty and contribute to the attainment of food and nutrition security and ecological sustainability. Research results and technologies that have been developed in universities and research institutes are said to "remain on the shelf". Farmer "innovations" are sometimes ignored and generally not valued or promoted. While it is recognized that, a complex package of inputs, support systems and management practices would be required to achieve the desired results; there is need to unleash the **innovation** potential of ACP scientists, engineers and farmers make visible the knowledge that remain out of reach of the majority of farmers in most ACP countries.

CTA is calling for proposals on innovations in use or have potential in smallholder agricultural production systems in ACP countries and which if known and widely promoted can benefit other farming communities.

Website: <http://youngfarmersfoundation.wordpress.com/2014/01/28/cta-top-20-innovations-for-smallholder-farmers-call-for-proposals/>

Agribusiness for Innovation

The Nairobi-based Agribusiness for Innovation Incubator programme is inviting people to apply for the 2014 programme. If you have an innovation that is aimed at improving food production, processing, technology or distribution and have legalized your idea, then the Incubation Programme is looking for you. The programme invites 12 agribusiness start-ups with mature ideas to work together with facilitators, mentors and like minded entrepreneurs in the same environment for 16 weeks. The sessions and workshops will help the start-up teams analyze the real need for input and feedback from the market, customers and key stakeholders, and design their tests and pilots accordingly. After 4 weeks of the sessions the teams will make presentations to a panel of business angles and their fellow peers and they panel will select 5 start-ups that will be given the pre-committed funding of \$5,000 each, to commence the testing and piloting. The piloting programme will continue for 10 weeks where they will be having guidance from facilitators, advisers and mentors. The activities conclude with a presentation to potential investors, key stakeholders and the social enterprise community at large what their tests and pilots revealed, and what the next steps are for their business venture.

Website: <http://techmoran.com/where-are-the-kenyan-agribusiness-innovators/>

World Habitat Awards 2015

New deadline for World Habitat Award submissions: the World Habitat Awards will now be presented at the World Urban Forum and UN-Habitat Governing Council events in April of each year, increasing opportunities for international exposure, networking and dissemination of the award winning approaches. **Website:** <http://www.worldhabitatawards.org/enter/?lang=00>

Mayors Challenge

Innovation comes from an intentional process of experimentation and exploration. The 2013–2014 Mayors Challenge is an ideas competition for European cities—a chance to win funding for a bold new solution to a major urban challenge. It exists to bring powerful new ideas to life—not only to help your own city, but to encourage others to adopt creative approaches as well. **Website:**

<http://mayorchallenge.bloomberg.org/index.cfm?objectid=58B735E0-1A4E-11E3-8975000C29C7CA2F>

The EU Contest for Young Scientists

The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists. **Website:**

http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history

2014 Innovation Prize for Africa

The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:

- Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
- Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
- Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
- Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.

Website: InnovationPrizeForAfrica.org

World Summit Youth Award

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals. **Website:** www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for proposals

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals: **Website:** [http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request for Proposals-Saving Brains EN.pdf](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request_for_Proposals-Saving_Brains_EN.pdf)

Zayed Future Energy Prize

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability. **Website:** www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000. **Website:** <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa. **Website:** www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies. **Website:** http://www.trustafrica.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan
Contact: namstct@vsnl.com, namstct@bol.net.in, apknam@gmail.com

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme. **Website:** www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible. **Website:** <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

Jobs and Careers

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market

Website: www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php

Global Knowledge Initiative

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/

ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

Website: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

Website: www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: www.africancareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website: <http://bizzlounge.com>

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com>

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

Website: <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (Zunia.org)

Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporafricanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

Website: <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>